HERE.

THESE ARE...?
WHERE DID YOU GET THESE?
YOU CAN'T LEAVE THIS MOUNTAIN.

I CAN'T LEAVE
THIS MOUNTAIN,
BUT HUMANS COME AND
GO ALL THE TIME.

...

I DIDN'T STEAL IT.

THEY RAN OFF WHEN THEY SAW ME. LEAVING ALL THEIR BELONGINGS BEHIND.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD KEEP THESE

HERE.

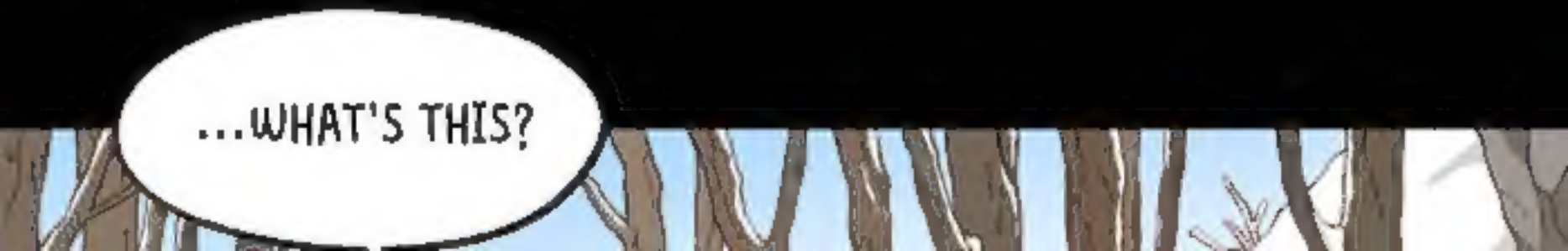
SOME MEAN HUMANS MIGHT RIP THEM APART AGAIN IF YOU BRING THESE.

SHOULD I?

...!

MR. KIM,
WHAT HAPPENED
TO YOUR LEG?

YOU'RE BLEEDING...


...WHAT'S THIS?

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ANKLE?

SHOW ME.

...DO THEY HIT YOU NOW?

IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS.
THOSE BASTARDS...!

THAT'S IT.
I'M GOING WITH YOU!

I'M GOING TO TEACH THEM SOME MANNERS!

DON'T

BE SILLY.

YOU KNOW CHEONRYONG WOULD BE FURIOUS.

UHGH

...!

...LISTEN, WE ARE ABOUT

TO ASCEND TO BECOME DRAGONS SOON.

IF WE BECOME DRAGONS, DO YOU WANT TO TAG ALONG AND LIVE WITH US IN THE RIVER?

UMM...

BUT I DON'T HAVE GILLS.

DON'T WORRY! HUMANS CAN BREATHE INSIDE THE PALACE.

IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, THAT IS...

IT WOULDN'T BE SO BAD.

IT'S NOT LIKE YOU HAVE ANY ATTACHMENT HERE.

...

I GUESS
YOU'RE RIGHT...

MY PARENTS
AND MY MENTOR ALL
PASSED AWAY.

ALL I'VE GOT...

...ARE THESE SHACKLES.

WHAT?
DO THEY ACTUALLY TIE YOU UP?

HAHA...

NOPE
I WAS JUST BEING
FIGURATIVE.

I AM BOUND TO
THAT HOUSEHOLD...

...WITH INVISIBLE TIES.

ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE HUMAN LAW YOU SPOKE OF?

IS THAT WHAT'S STOPPING YOU?

...

WELL THEN,
LET'S GO TO THE
PALACE WITH US.

...HUH?

IT'S BETTER THAN WAITING FOR YOUR FAMILY TO...

...SUDDENLY REGAIN THEIR NOBLE STATUS.

YOU WANTED TO BECOME A SCHOLAR, RIGHT?

I CAN GATHER YOU EVERY BOOK THAT WAS EVER PUBLISHED IN THIS COUNTRY IF YOU WISH.

I CAN BRING YOU SO MANY BOOKS THAT YOU WILL BE...

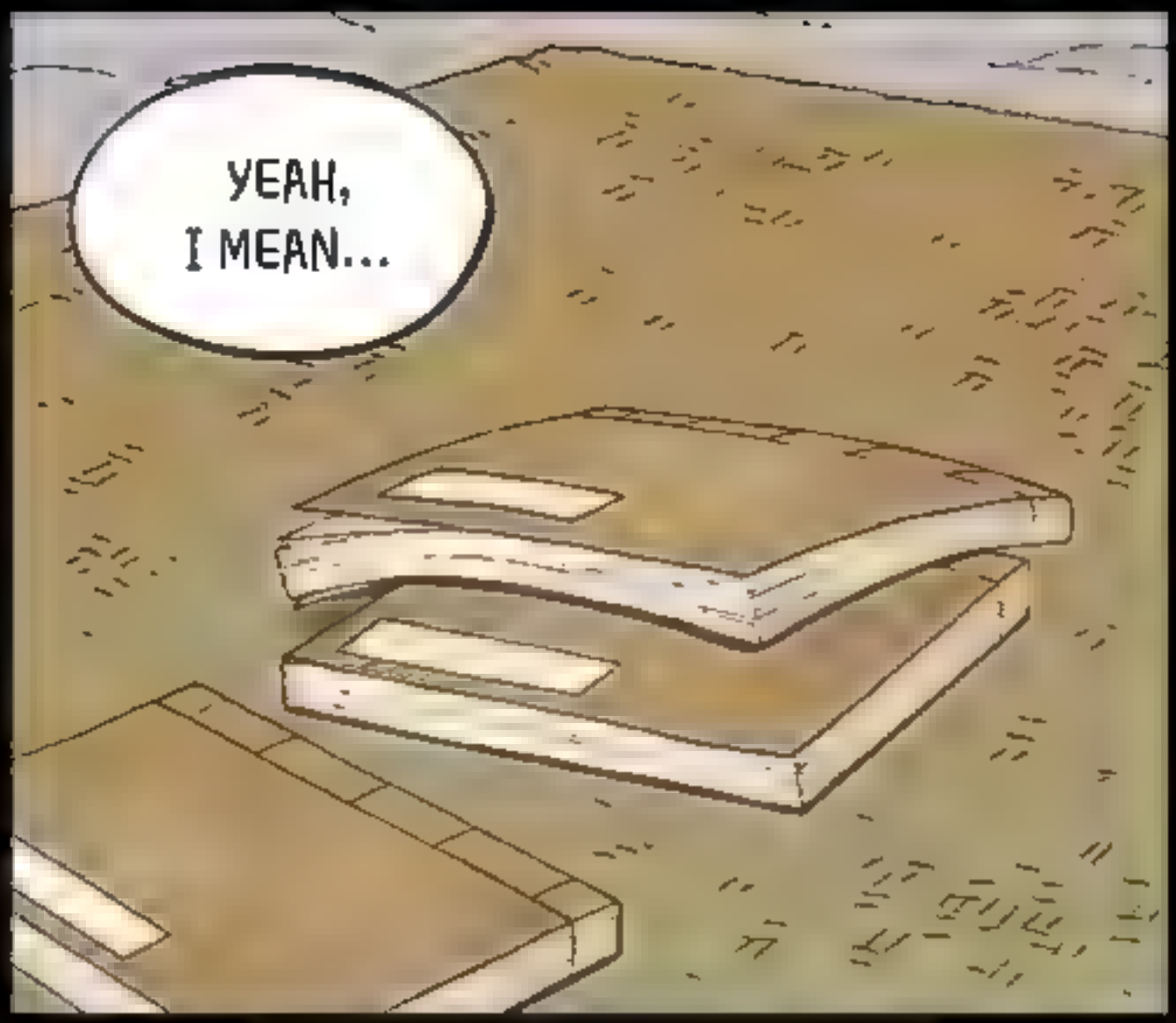
...LITERALLY SWIMMING IN THEM.

WHAT
DO YOU SAY,
MR. KIM?
...

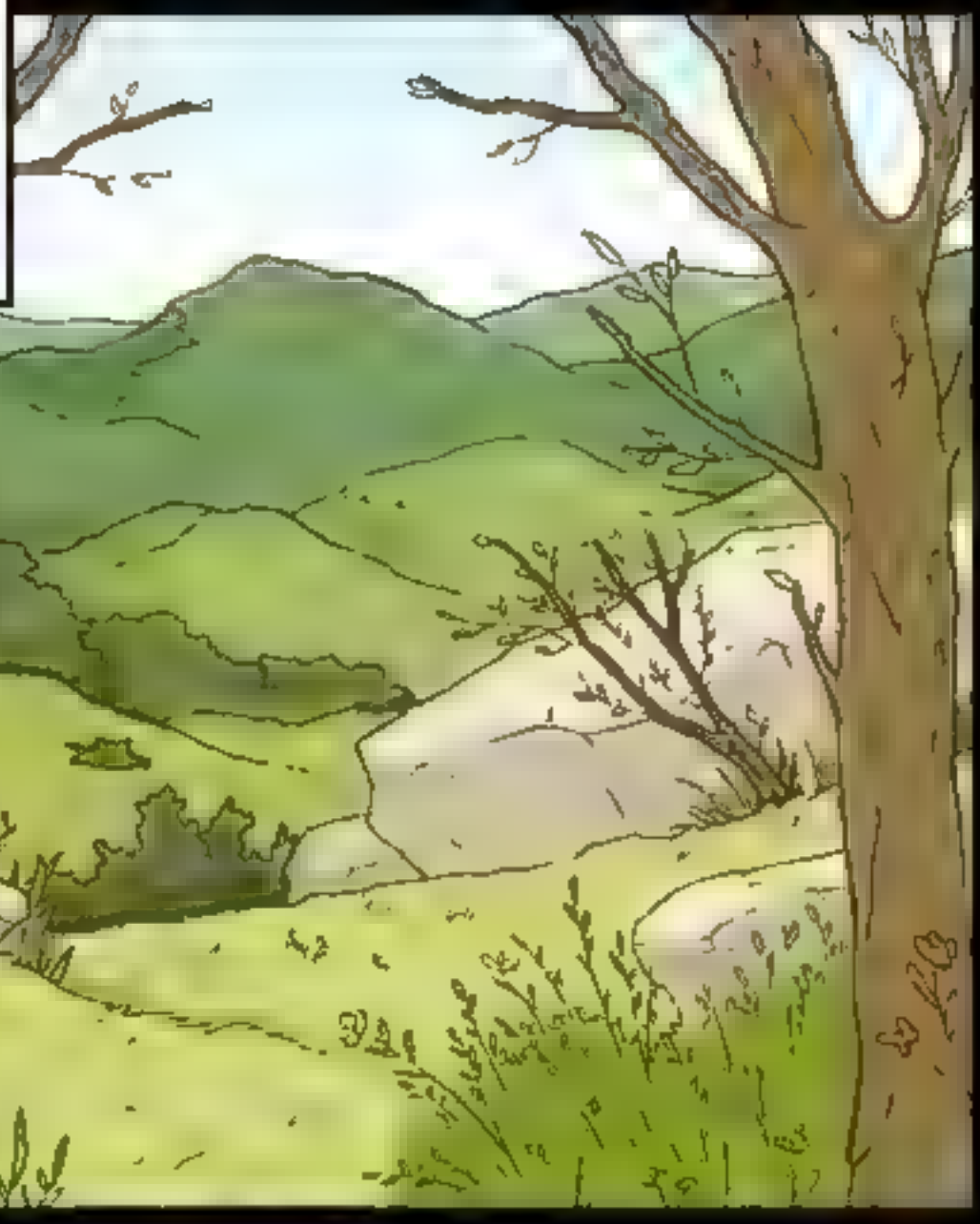
HAHAHA!

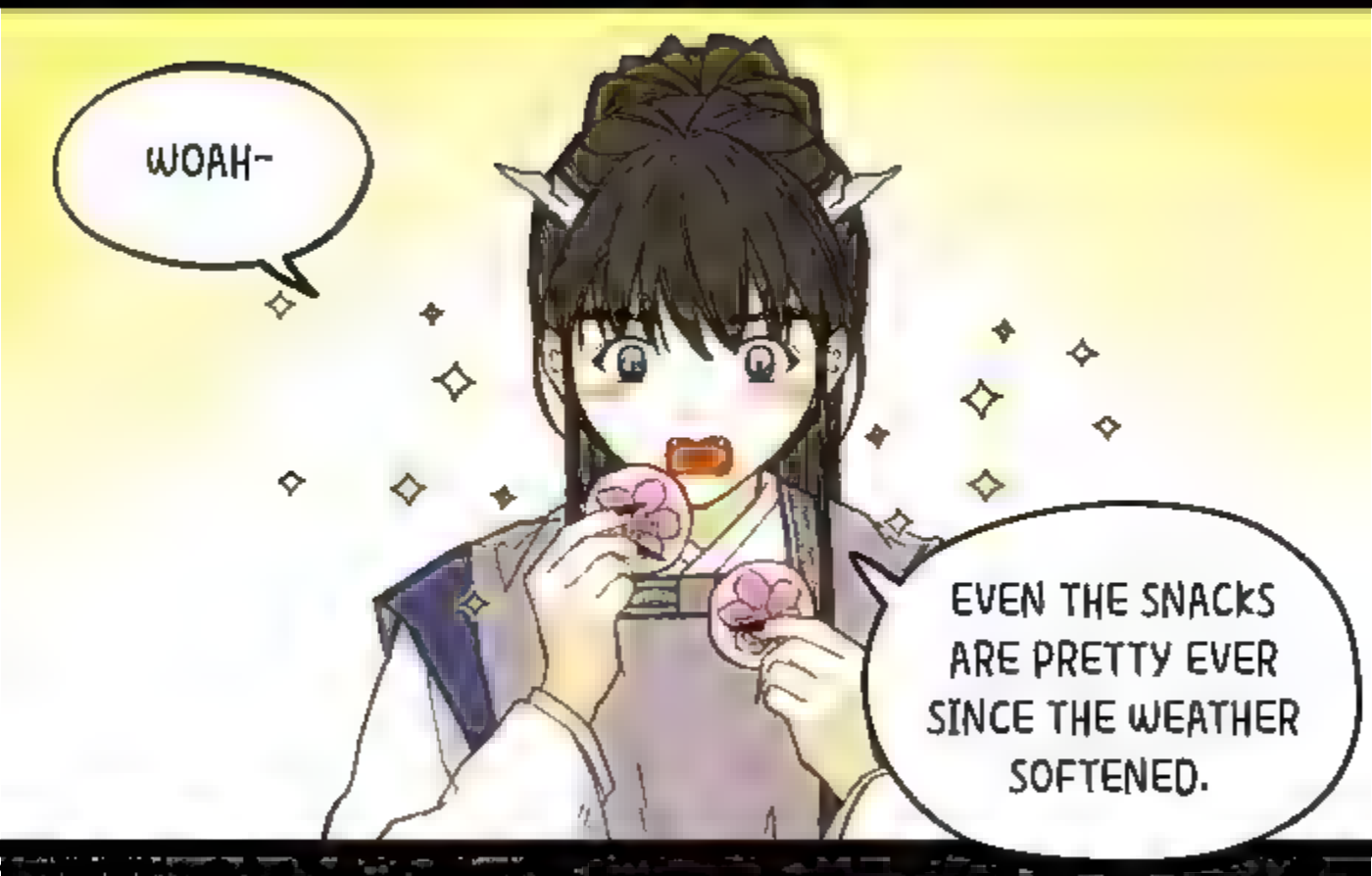
SOUNDS LIKE A DREAM!

YOU GUYS CAN SWIM UNDERWATER, AND I CAN SWIM IN BOOKS...


YEAH,
I MEAN...

THAT REALLY IS AWESOME.




WOAH-
EVEN THE SNACKS ARE PRETTY EVER SINCE THE WEATHER SOFTENED.

DAMSEOL, HERE YOU GO.

YUM

YUM

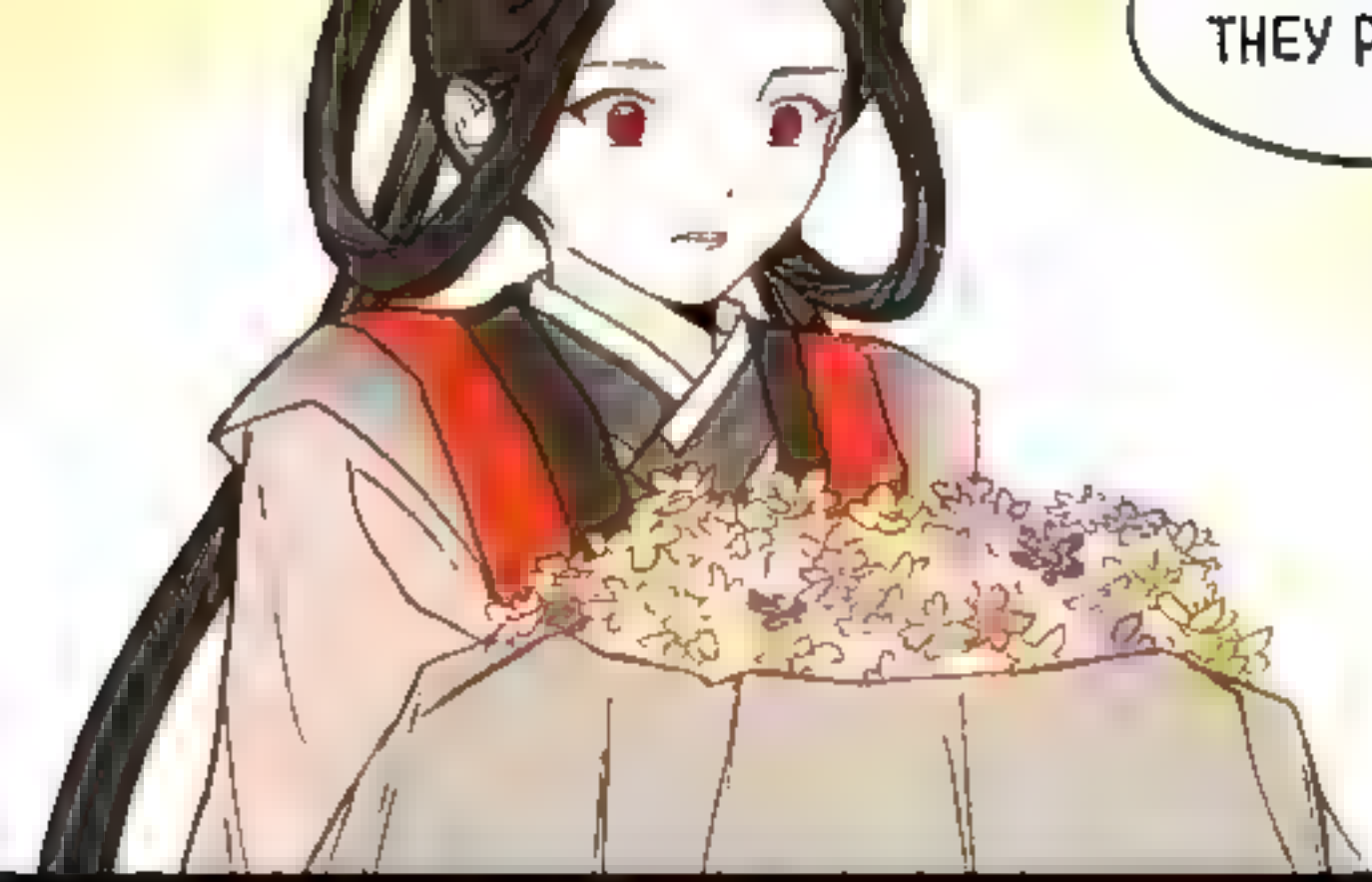
WHAT'S THIS?
SLIP
A PARCEL...?

...!

I COULDN'T BRING YOU ANYTHING OVER THE WINTER.

SO I GOT A BUNCH OF FLOWERS FROM OTHER MOUNTAINS SO THAT YOU CAN TAKE A LOOK AT THEM.

AREN'T


THEY PRETTY?

YOU TOLD ME YOU'LL HAVE ME SWIMMING IN BOOKS, RIGHT?

WELL,
IT'S NOT QUITE
THAT AMOUNT.

BUT...

...MAYBE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BURY YOUR HEAD IN THEM IF YOU TRIED?

...

THAT'S

SO SILLY.

IN THIS LITTLE FLOWER PUDDLE...

PFFT

CAREFUL...

YOU'RE SPILLING THE FLOWERS...!

LEAVE IT.

IT LOOKS PRETTY.

...HUH? HE OBVIOUSLY HAD A THING FOR HER...
...AND YOU'RE TELLING ME IT WASN'T LOVE?

WHAT IS IT, THEN?

GAH

WHY DID HE DO IT?!

IT'S NOT LIKE HE PROFITED FROM IT.

YOU SAID HE BETRAYED YOU FOR DAMSEOL, RIGHT?

...

WHY WOULD HE DO THAT?

MAYBE HE'S JUST A MEAN BASTARD...

I SAID THAT'S NOT IT!

...STILL TRYING TO DEFEND HIM?

IF HE'S NOT A SON OF A BITCH WHO WANTS TO RUIN PEOPLE'S LIVES FOR FUN...

THERE'S ONLY ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION.

...?

...HE WAS

JEALOUS OF YOU.

YOU COULD FREELY TAKE THE EXAM...
...WHILE HE COULDN'T, BECAUSE OF HIS CLASS.

IT'S ONLY NATURAL HE WAS LYING BEHIND YOUR BACK.

SOME PEOPLE JUST WANT TO DRAG OTHERS DOWN TO THEIR LEVEL, WHILE COMPLAINING ABOUT THEIR LIVES.

YOU KNOW WHERE MR. KIM LIVES, RIGHT?

LET'S GO.

WE SHOULD SEARCH HIS HOUSE OR DO WHATEVER WE CAN.

AREN'T YOU COMING?

THERE'S NO NEED TO GO ANYWHERE...

...IF YOU'RE TRYING TO SEE MR. kIM.

...WHY?
HE'LL COME
HERE SOON HIMSELF.

...
...WHAT?

BECAUSE
I'M ABOUT TO
ASCEND...

...IN ABOUT
A COUPLE OF
HOURS.